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If our friends who favor us with manuscripts for

A Courtly Compliment.

The Hon. LLOYD C. GRISCOM, presi ent of the Republican county commitis an experienced and accomplished plomatist, who has learned that mos wins more than vinegar. We quote from his speech at his first appearance in that official capacity from which so much is hoped by all of us who wish see the Republican party of this town united and capable:

For four years our party has given to the State of New York the greatest Governor in its

Of the Governors of New York the common memory must hold, we should pose, at least such names as JOHN JAY, the CLINTONS, MARTIN VAN BUREN, WHIJAM L. MARCY, SILAS WRIGHT, HAMILTON FISH, SEWARD, EDWIN D. IOBGAN, DIX, TILDEN, CLEVELAND and ROOSEVELT. In their day and generation these men commanded, and one still commands, the attention of the people of their State, and the interest, some cases the enthusiasm, of much of the country.

With no thought of depreciating the public services of Governor HUGHES, hose record and measure are not yet made up and taken, we may say that me of his predecessors have a high and honorable place in history, while some thers of them, well known and probably meritorious enough in their time, ave passed out of mind. But it would be too simple to weigh a compliment or to scrape the paint from a well favored brase. Our only purpose in recalling this sentence of Mr. GRISCOM's is to ring out the amiable and courtly spirit with which the new president of the ublican county committee enters son his duties.

Better is the spreading of syrup than the throwing of bricks.

Investigating the Prices of Foodstuffs.

and Means Committee and Representa- the members elected. tive CLARK of Missouri, the minority codstuffs, protest that it must be nonpartisan. Without doubt Mr. PAYNE, whose name is associated with the new tariff law, cherishes the hope that nothing will come of the inquiry to show that the tariff makers are responsible in any degree for the burdensome cost of living; and the Hon. CHAMP CLARK would pray that the investigation will furnish his party with capital for the Congress campaign. While no one is detlemen, both of whom are robust party in this case. The public temper demands that the light be turned on and that all the facts be brought out.

Unless it can be shown that the tariff the Payne law. As regards meats. Mr. Longe of Massachusetts insisted in the Senate the other day that not the tariff but "the combination in Chihas affected the price of beef." LODGE said:

"I believe they have advanced it artificially by combination, and that they have advanced It more than it ought to be advanced, and out them through the tariff. I think it is the simplest economic proposition in the world. We are great heat producers. There are only three countrie in the world that have edible animals to exportthis country. Australia and the Argentine. Now, hat being the case, the mere removal of the duty will not affect the price of beef, because we do not import beef. We cannot import beef from countries that have no surplus to export. We are the exporters of beef. It brings it back to exactly what I said, that you have to deal with the difficulty of an artificial combination. You cannot reach them through the tariff. I wish you could. If you could reach them through the been called to the sufferings of Secretaken off, but there is no use in undertaking to what he felt to be a streak of undue fool the people about it. If you take the duty severity in the existing rules. It is the off of beef you do not affect the power of that first section, as published, that concerns trust to raise the price of beef to the American

Some of the Democrats in the House in gold coin an amendment putting Representative FOELKER of New York the proposed legislation may be re- next class." garded as a party manœuvre. The Re-

Democrats will take advantage of the wickian humor, and merely add to the monopoly by a combination of packers. to stand on their heads, to perform de-If the Democrats can prove the con-grading and disgraceful acts, and gentrary they will of course score a point.

Both parties are prepared to believe and their leaders declare that the pack- it can be shown that all this was done ers are in a combination to regulate the to them with "intent to injure, punish prices of meat to suit themselves. This or humiliate," the offenders are to be is a general belief among consumers. Like Senator Longs, there are Republicans in both houses who would like ous effervescence of their fine young to "reach" the beef trust; the Demo- spirits they will begin all over again. crats are of the same mind, and they are not united on the tariff-particularly are they tender on the subject of protection Scorr, Superintendent of the Academy, for the farmer. So it looks as if the investigators would concern themselves more about the combinations than the tariff. Politically it may be a drawn battle, but it is of the utmost importance Point and to convert to the ways of genthat all the facts be brought out. Sup-tlemen and at least the appearance of pression would certainly operate to the courage and command even the toughdisadvantage of the party in power.

Chinese Legislatures.

Two years ago an imperial decree established an elective assembly in each of the twenty-one provinces of China and Manchuria and one for the new dominions in Chinese Turkestan. Things move at a leisurely gait in the Middle Kingdom. The electors had to be trained to vote; so that it was only at the end of last year that the assemblies met for the first time. An interesting account of the manner in which they set to work and of what they accomplished is sent to the London Times by its Pekin correspondent.

Of the five classes of men 25 years of age or over who are allowed to vote, three must have a fairly stiff educational qualification; the fourth comprises civil and military officials, who also must have some degree of education; the fifth includes persons with a property qualification of \$5,000. These must be natives of the province in which they vote; persons from other provinces may also vote if they have double the property qualification and have resided in the province ten years. Opium smokers, law breakers, illiterates and certain other objectionable persons are excluded from the franchise. Any voter who is 30 years old is eligible to the assembly. The number of voters varied in the different provinces, many persons abstaining from lack of interest, and others through the Chinese mistrust of new things.

The legislators are paid. In meeting they elected in each province a president, vice-presidents and a standing committee. They adopted rules resembling those of Western procedure; reading a bill three times, for instance, before voting. The public was admitted to the sessions by ticket, and places were set apart for the reporters of the newspapers, in which the proceedings were published day by day. The assemblies all met on October 14 and adjourned at the end of forty days, save in a few cases where the session lasted fifty days. The Times correspondent was impressed by the moderation and especially by the brevity and businesslike nature of the speeches. Both Chairman PAYNE of the Ways He also noted the high character of

ere was remarkably 'ittle friction leader, who were designated to draft a between the assemblies and the Governresolution regulating the scope of an ment officials. In one case a Vicerov inquiry into the causes of high prices of undertook to obstruct the election; he was removed from office. In a few cases the Viceroy sought to control the organization of the assembly, which insisted on its rights and compelled him to give way. In others efforts were made to debate imperial matters, which had been distinctly excluded from their jurisdiction in the decree creating the assemnot be a stalwart Democrat if he did not blies; these were suppressed by the legislatures themselves and their own presiding officers. The matters which were discussed and resolutions about which were forwarded to Pekin were those relating to the welfare of the province men, non-partisanship is the best policy and the local interests. Among these were the general demand for the suppression of the opium trade and the prohibition of poppy cultivation, calls for currency reform, for standard weights rates affecting food products are so and measures, for taking the census, high as to prohibit importations it will reclaiming waste lands, afforestation, be difficult to make out a case against dredging the rivers, extending railroads, suppressing gambling, prison reform, universal education, and so on.

The picture of twenty-one legislatures attending strictly to business, getting cago known as the 'Chicago packers' through their work in six weeks and discussing subjects like the above briefly and with moderation, seems to portray the ideal Chinamen of the eighteenth century, essayists who criticised matters European, and not conditions in 1910. of all proportion. I do not think you can reach If the provincial legislators of Szechuan, Shantung, Nanking, Hupeh and the rest remain uncorrupted by Western examples, it would be well worth while to send our own legislators and sociologists to China to learn from them.

The Proposal to Tolerate Hazing at West Point.

We have been greatly edified by what purport to be the new rules for hazing at West Point. Attention has already tariff I should be most happy to see that duty tary of War DICKINSON in discovering us. It runs to this effect:

" Any cadet who shall invite, order or compe seem to take issue with Mr. Lodge as gage in any form of physical exercise (except at a candidate, new cadet or fourth class man to en to the "one particle." The investigation, if thorough and unsparing, should mouth anything whatever, or shall strike, treat show who is right. On Monday Mr. with violence or offer bodily harm to a candidate FITZGERALD of New York wanted to tack new cadet or fourth class man, or shall invite, on to Mr. PAYNE'S bill for the payment order, compel or permit a candidate, new eadet of United States bonds and certificates or fourth class man to sweep-his (the cadet's room or tent, make his bed, clean his arms, equip meats on the free list for one year, and for him any other menial service, or to do for him anything incompatible with the position of a introduced a bill for the free admission cadet and gentleman shaff, when no intent has of meats. Mr. PATHE declined to accept been shown to injure, punish or humiliate such the amendment and Mr. FOELKER's bill candidate, new cadet or fourth class man, be sumis destined to obscurity. In both cases marily suspended and turned back to join the

There are three other articles in the publicans will of course indorse Senator "new rules," but they do not count.

Labor's view of the matter, and the They are all of the same jocund, Pick-

present onerous prices to inveigh already sufficient gayety of the situaagainst the tariff rate on meat. On tion. The "joker," and a mighty pretty fresh beef, veal, mutton, lamb and pork and amusing joker it is, can be found the rate is one and a half cents a pound, in the words "when no intent has been friends, firmly convinced that no rewhich does not loom very large, appar- shown," &c. Small and strange and ently not large enough to prevent friendless boys can be made to eat soap, erally to surrender their dignity and self-respect to fear or force; but unless "suspended and turned back to join the next class," where naturally in the joy-

It is comparatively easy to figure to yourself the gallant Colonel HUGH L. painfully poring over these "new rules' and appealing to a sincere if puzzled imagination for light and guidance. He wants to maintain discipline at West est and most unpromising material sent to him. Nevertheless he is asked if not required to pronounce upon "intent" when the very circumstances of the case speak for themselves.

The logical and inevitable operation of these "new rules" would be to destroy the last vestige of discipline and decency at West Point.

Dropping In at the White House!

Homesick in the White House, macooned for his own good, hedged in, protected by fences of rule and conventionality, sighing in the midst of all the Italian tact of CARPENTER and all the beauty and splendor of Butt for the old familiar freedom: is such the impression that the sympathetic reader gets from this remark of Mr. TAFT, speaking in his sweater to certain Washington newspaper employees?

"There is in the White House a sense of isola tion due to the fact that generally nobody drops

Behind these words the penetrating mind will see another purpose, perhaps a gentle complaint, perhaps a philosophic patience. "Generally nobody drops in." We are far from saying that BEVERIDGE is generally nobody, but surely he generally drops in, drops down, pops up. He too is an inheritance. Mr. ROOSEVELT was always walking away from him. The other day Mr. TAFT was trying to. We recorded the futility of the effort. If BEVERIDGE goes, he returns. BEVERIDGE was always there, is always there. BEVER-IDGE is willing to stay in the White House for four years, eight years more. They count not well who try to keep him out.

Vain are the rudest sentries, the mos portentous flunkies, the politest secretaries, the burning brilliance of the military aide. Beveridge screens avail not. As groceries, as furniture, as books Bey-ERIDGE has himself delivered. He rises in an airship and plumps down the chimney. No open window escapes his gerfalcon eye. He generally drops in. He feels himself responsible for this Adminstration as he did for the last. Of all the hard work of the President, hearing BEV-ERIDGE beveridge must be the hardest.

Still, when BEVERIDGE has to go to the Senate chamber or Indiana or Chautauqua, there must be one or two other gen-ABBOT out of the country? Has any thing happened to Dr. ALBERT SHAW?

Turning State's Evidence.

In all the chaos of Republican poliics at the present moment there is nothing more notable than the spectacle of the Hon. JACOB SLOAT FASSETT from the housetops and through the long night clamoring for a party housecleaning. Explicable of course the phenomenon s on the simplest possible investigation. Had the Hon. JACOB by chance entered the comparatively honorable guild of bank burglars the first shadow of suspicion would have transformed him into a State's witness. To escape his own responsibility by testifying against his sociates, this has ever been the sturdy and manful custom of the statesman of

Right, however, the Hon. J. SLOAT patently is in the conviction that a nousecleaning is necessary. But where from Suffolk to Chautauqua is there a region more appropriate for the start of the work than the county of Chemung and those adjoining counties which constitute the pocket borough now represented in part at Washington by Mr. FASSETT himself? Any system that could really avail to clean house here, would it not patently prove irresistibly eneficial in all other regions?

It is not necessary to review recent history in order to demonstrate the necessity, the crying need for housecleaning on the Southern Tier. The memory of that interesting "John and I' despatch; the ever visible glory of the Hon. J. B. H. Mongin yesterday eliminated from State service by Governor HUGHES and to-day named postmaster by Mr. FASSETT's efforts; the still remembered snowshoe convention that started the Fassett era, these facts lie open to all investigation, however

Then, too, there is the verdict of the Republicans of this region themselves. Reference to the returns shows that in 1904, his first campaign, Mr. FASSETT had a majority of 8,221. Two years later it was 5,352, last time it was 4,161. In 1905, when Mr. FASSETT began his service in Washington, the vote for Assemblymen in the counties of his district showed a Republican advantage of 4,918; last year it was 2,117. Something of an advertisement for house-

cleaning we think discernible here also. To our neighbor the Evening Post these outpourings of FASSETT have deep significance. They are as the signs of an approaching storm, a revolt of the sinful themselves against the overgrown body of sin. Too sanguine by half we think the Post is. The meaning, so far as they have meaning, of these signs is clear in the light of history The Hon. JACOB SLOAT FASSETT is again on the march to escape reform, to avoid housecleaning at home, by directing at-

tention to the back yards of his neighbors and friends. We shall await with some degree of interest the determinations of these same neighbors and former, however vociferous, can permanently escape the fatal effects of

Decline of Politics in Mississippi

It is plain that the ancient and honorable art of politics is not cultivated in Mississippi with the devotion and the ardor which its mastery requires. In minor details much adroitness is shown. A deadlock, in most of its aspects entirely ridiculous and satisfactory, is maintained over the United States Senatorship. Slanders and libels appear to be uttered and denounced with a fair simulation of rapture and rage. Threats proprieties. In the larger affairs of statecraft the student of human progress will meet only with disappointment and failures. For example, the incident involving

Representative Gannon or Cannon and an editor named Hobbs. The preliminaries were entirely successful. The editor accused the adherents of VARDAMAN of corrupting the opposition by large doses of intoxicating liquors, and he used the Representative's name freely in his charges. The Representative "hurled back the slander" with scientific exactitude and professional skill. The editor reiterated his accusations in the familiar way Then, following the best precedents, 'the two met," of course in a crowded corridor of a hotel, and "the Represen tative advanced threateningly" toward the editor. With excellent stage management the editor produced at this point the gentleman's weapon commonly called "a gun." So far all was well. But here the lack of true statesmanship manifested itself. The Representative, instead of drawing a pistol and beginning a fusillade very detrimental to the 'innocent bystanders," "came to halt." Then came the shameful revelation. The Representative was not armed. He was without a deadly weapon. The dearest traditions of politics had been neglected by one bound by his official post to support and cherish them. It was a tragedy so complete as to be overwhelming. It revealed in a flash to what depths politics has fallen in the spot where once it was most sedulously cultivated and guarded.

Tears for Mississippi. She is fallen from the high place she once held in the Union of the States.

Senator HALE says he feels "perfectly safe.

Is the Hon. FRED POWERS so little of error? The Hon. HENRY CABOT LODGE is too polite to say that he is "perfectly safe" from that world renowned martialist the Hon. BUTLER AMES.

Liberals, 274; Unionists, 273.-London despate But 'tis a famous victory.

We congratulate the Hon. CRARLES EVANS HUGHES as the eleverest politician, not excepting THEODORS ROGEVELT, that, comet-like, has shot across the political horizon for many a long year.— Albany Journal.

Apparently the Hon, WILLIAM BARNES Jr., is still seeing stars.

The "crisis" in Greece has come to an end for the moment. King GEORGE seems eral drop-ins left over. Is Dr. LYMAN to have decided to take a hand in political often humiliated by the turbulent military is glad to leave office, and the Military League kindly agrees to disband now that Colonel ZORBAS, its leader, has been made a General and other members have been promoted. The Chamber of Deputies will be permitted to assemble again and to try to legislate, and a temporary Ministry of Affairs in which General ZORBAS is Minister of War will hold office

Mark Hopkins as Jim Fowler

till it meets.

From "Things of Interest" by Addison Ballard, D. D. Jim Powier was well known as having been about the most densely ignorant and morally depraved man of Williamstown. "Having been," to all appearance a soundly converted Christian This is the story as it was told me by Dr Henry Sabin, the principal physician of the vil-lage, a trustee of the college and a warm per-sonal friend of President Hopkins: "I was stand ing on the sidewalk in front of my office building said the doctor, "when President Hopkins cam up to me and in the most detected and dis late manner poured out a tale of distress and dis-couragement, the cause of which was the wrong way in which things were going in the college. seemed not to be succeeding very well in my effort to cheer him, when the sound of singing rose on the air—singing, but no singer anywhere in sight. It was a heart inspiring song about the joys and glories of the New Jerusalem. 'Who New Jerusalem?' asked President Hopkins in a kind of startled surprise. 'Who? Why, that's Jim Fowler digging down there in the celiar under 'Well, then,' cried President Hopkins me be Jim Fowler!'

From American Medicine.
The excessive mortality of overweights been published by life insurance statisticians, and the phenomenon must be considered in football the phenomenon must be considered in football discussions. It is now a proved fact that the men who are barred from the game are the ones who live the longest, and though mere length of life is no criterion of its usefulness, yet it is a fair assumption that the longest lived are the most igorous and therefore the best brain workers. Every now and then some ingenious fellow pub

lishes statistics showing that students able to take part in sports outlive those too defective to ake any part at all, as though that needed numer

The new statistics show that the healthy under weights excluded from football are fitter for survival in America than the overweights of the

General Knox's Carriage. From the Kennebec Journal.

Frank B. Hills, first selectman of Thomasto day or two ago with a "pedigreed carriage" the one in which Washington's first Secretary of War used to ride. The carriage was built in Boston 130 years ago and was the private carriage of Major-General Henry Knox, Secretary under the first President, and not only is it one of the most historic vehicles in the United States but it is also probably the oldest able bodied private carriage in existence on the continent. In spite of its 120 years, a quaint substantial vehicle it is. General Knox no doubt had it made, just as history tells it, in Boston, for there were no carriage ders in Thomaston in those early days, and as General Knox operated a packet line of small sailing vessels between Boston and Thomaston it would have been easy for him to have the car-riage brought to Thomaston.

Not the Man. From the McAlester News-Capital.

Bill Hailey wishes the folks would quit calling him up by phone to ask about his comet. He says he doesn't own any comet, that it is a fellow named Hailey and not Hailey who owns that comet. AROUND THE GALLERIES.

When the late H. S. Henry of Phila-

delphia paid \$50,000 for a Millet at the Martin sale last season in this city no one who had seen the picture was surprised. Since then Mr. Henry has died, and that same Millet will soon come again under the auctioneer's hammer, the same auctioneer, Mr. Kirby of the American Art Galleries, Madison Square South. The Millet in question is "Going to Work; Dawn of Day," and its merits were expatiated upon in THE SUN when it was first placed on view. It is a superior Millet, and though it has not the sentimental interest of the "Angelus" or the rather sombre poetry of the "Sower. its coloring is more luscious than either of these two masterpieces. Indeed, for a Millet the sheer paint quality is rather remarkable, for we do not go to this artist to gratify the lust of the eye. The young man and young woman in this picture of personal violence, hints of irrelevant and Millet saw the zoological order in and immaterial scandals are circulated the hierarchy of toil correctly, the male with due regard for the conventions and and the female-are starting to work with the blitheness of healthy youth. Possibly after the man grows old he will look like the old chap with the hoe, while the girl, worn out by her household, by child bearing and field work, will grow akin to some terrible figure in Zola's "La Terre." Lucky the purchaser of this "Going to Work." It contains no adumbrations of the sordid old age of peasantry. The world is beautiful. Love is beautiful. Work is beautiful. / What an optimist was

Millet. And what a poet. The three Daubignys are fine specimens, in three different keys. One is surely the best out of the three; but we leave to prospective bidders the not very difficult task of picking the winner. After all, is it not a matter of individual taste? Consider that Millet. If the Millet that was sold for \$30,000 several weeks ago by Mr. Kirby, a country girl, if we remember aright, was worth the price, then "Going to Work" ought to fetch five times the amount, because in artistic quality it is ten times the superior. But you never can tell. The Monet that went for \$4,600 at a sale in those galleries a few days ago was valued at \$6,000. We saw almost the same picture—the one sold is really a variantat the Durand-Ruel Galleries, and wondered over the extravagance of the sum bid at Mr. Kirby's imperious challenge The Durand-Ruel example must be, by the same token, worth \$10,000. A striking Schrever, shallow as ever, but exciting: several brilliant Diazes, a Jacque that looks like a Rousseau-at a distance; Dupré. Troyon, Decamps and the Corots make up total of twenty-one paintings. Not a significant a collection as that disposed of at the first Henry sale in 1907, yet it contains at least half a dozen remarkable

authentic history; there is the woman watching her cow, the environs of Sèvres a lovely evocation—the wooded pool. the old brick bridge at Arleux-Palluel Lake Nemi and the pond. Lake Nemi is as we all know, a masterpiece in the true Corot classic romantic vein. The fairy orchestra of the poetic Frenchman discourses its most silvery and enchanting music. And how many painters have depicted this lovely lake? From Claude, Turner and Richard Wilson to the new Frenchmen, not forgetting the etchers and engravers, all have come under the tranquil spell. Yet if you say Nemi it somehow or other means Corot. In fact. Corot's present popularity makes one apprehensive of his critical future. How ever, in 1910 we expect great things of him. and next Friday evening at Mendelssohn Hall will witness another battle of the bidders, with "Going to Work" and "Lake

The Corots, six in number, have all an

We cordially recommend a visit to the Fine Arts Building in West Fifty-seventh street to all lovers of design in archithe Architectural League of New York is holding its annual exhibition. The arrangement gives a sense of spacious ness and the main exhibits fall gracefully into the general scheme. All the presen distinguished and coming men of architecture are represented, and the average of work displayed is high. A notable show

The Duke of Cumberland's Sword.

From the London Chronicle. What became of the Duke of Cumberland's sword, which was lost or stolen at the Haymarket Theatre on January 16, 1749? It was on the night ng cane the music of every instrument now used perfection; get into a quart bottle without equivocation, and while there sing several songs, besides doing other things only a little less man velious. More marvellous that the theatre should have been packed with spectators, including many of the noblity and the Duke of Cumberland—of ulloden fame.

The conjurer did not appear, but one of the theatre officials did and informed the hou all money would be returned at the doors. perland was the first that flew in a rage." a con temporary account tells us, "and called to pull down the house. He drew his sword and was in such a rage that somebody slipped in behind him as much as to say, Fools should not have chopping sticks. This sword of his has never been

From the Landon Globe. It is said that aviation is not considered ortho lox among Mussulmans. M. de Caters has given dox among Mussulmans. M. de Caters nas given his impressions to a Paris contemporary of his visit to Constantinople. He says the Turks and Arabs greatly amused him. "The Koran says that only God is able to exait himself showe men. so one can imagine how awestricken Turks wer when they saw me in my aeroplane above their capital. They looked upon me as a demigod. As to the biplane, most of the Turks did not dare approach it. Those who did made their sa

Acres and Bible Letters

From Notes and Queries.
It has sometimes been stated that there are more cres in Yorkshire than there are letters in the Bible. A person hearing the statement for the first time is inclined to doubt it, but it is true all the same. Authorities differ as to the exact reage of the county, one giving it as 3,842,848 and another as 3,771,843. But the number of letters in the Bible is said to be 3,566,480, so the cres beat the letters with something to spare

It comes from out the unabridged And sparkles down the pages. A graceless word, yet privileged Mong all the wits and sages

The scribes when writing pieces both Original and clever, Somehow are not precisely loath To use the word "however."

Right heartily they choose it; And orators, to make a point. The stylists with superior sniff

In rhapsody may flout it.
Yet wonder what things would be if
They had to do without it. The wearying chain of phrases

Of muscular endeaver. For words may come and words may go-

IMPORTED FOODSTUFFS.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 1.—The total imports of the United States in the calendar year 1909 were valued at \$1,475,612,580. More than one-fifth of this (\$334,430,105) represented substances which either directly or indirectly are consumed as food or drink. The various articles and their value make an interesting and possibly instructive list:

IMPORTS, 1909. ugar and molasses..... 86,524,006 Fruits and nuts. 34,603,684 Vines, spirits and mait liquors..... 13,358,534 Meat and dairy products..... 9.862,037 8,923,690 4,870,978 Breadstuffs..... 4.614.639 Spices 3,731,470 Ginger ale and ginger beer 3,187,858 About 45 per cent. of the total came in free of duty. The free list includes coffee and tea, which constituted more than

two-thirds of the value of the free entries Fruits and nuts are about equally divided between the free and the dutiable lists, with bananas and cocoanuts representing nearly all of the free entries. Cocoa or cacao is another important free entry. and most of the spices pay no duty. Sugar is the important item on the dutiable list. There are some, probably many, who believe that if all food substances were put on the free list the cost of living would be materially reduced. The result of such a course is uncertain. There is every reason to believe that the transfer of sugar to the free list would reduce the price of that commodity about one and one-half cents a pound, at the cost of more than \$50,000,000 a year to the national revenues. There is little or no reason to believe that removal of the 25 cents a bushel duty on wheat would materially reduce the price of flour. At the present range of prices the duty of one and one-half cents a pound on fresh beef, veal, mutton, lamb and pork does not seem an insuperable barrier to the importation of fresh meat, yet practically

one is imported. The duty of 15 cents a bushel on corn does not affect the price of corn, for the reason that no other country has corn for sale in any considerable quantity. The duty on lard is one and one-half cents a pound. At the opening of the year the wholesale price of lard was three cents a pound higher than it was twelve months earlier. No other country has lard to sell in quantities that would be noticed in our markets. The wholesale price of mess pork has increased 50 per cent, in twelve months, yet the duty is only 25 per cent. ad valorem. At present prices the duty of five cents a lozen is almost an invitation to the shipment of eggs from Canada, but they do

not come in any appreciable quantity. The probability is that if all agricultural products were put on the free list there yould be no material change in condition for some time. The result, in the long run would be a great benefit to both producers and consumers. There would probably be an increasing pressure, at no time heavy enough to be at all dangerous to American producers, from outside markets. That pressure should result in forcing American producers, although neither violently nor suddenly, to adopt those farm methods which all authorities now recognize as desirable and soon to become imperative. Free wheat, cattle. sheep, beef and pork products, free vegetables, eggs, poultry and dairy products would not mean an immediate and overwhelming inflow of those commodities with benefit to the consumer and disaster to the American producer. The surplus of tecture, mural decoration, interior decoration, sculpture and minor crafts, as such result, and the considerable increase that surplus is a matter of time

NAVY REORGANIZATION.

The President Called Upon to Supp Plan of Secretary Meyer.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: The edi orial article "Secretary Meyer's Alternative" THE SUN of January 29 is the fairest and most comprehensive statement of the actual onditions as they exist in the navy that has yet appeared in a newspaper. Secretary Meyer has formulated a plan for the improvement of the navy. He has taken many months to study the subject and has sough counsel from the most eminent officers, both active and retired. His scheme has me with great commendation on every hand from friends of the navy and the public and influence are to be curtailed have de determined to nullify the practical working out of Secretary Meyer's much needed reorganization.

It is now for President Taft to take action

It is now for President Taft to take action and support his Secretary by removing if necessary the two opposing obstacles. Constructor Capps and Paymaster Rogers. That can be done by the President simply sending to the Senate the names of two other appointees, and under the decision of the United States Supreme Court in the Blake case the object is effected.

Secretary Meyer has the confidence of the people to a degree that has not been equalled since the days of Mr. Whitney, and they will require that he have a fair chance, with "sympathetic coadjutors," to "secure the presentation of his plans under at least normal auspices." As is well said in The Sun, there is no alternative: either the President must support his Cabinet officer or Mr. Meyer must resign.

BROOKLIN, January 31. BROOKLYN, January 31.

The E. Neville-Rolfe Memorial.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: A fund has seen started in Naples to perpetuate the memory of the late Consul-General E. Neville-Rolfe, C. V. O., for over twenty-seven years a resident and for thirteen and one-half years H. B. M.'s repreentative in that city.

The interest from the investment of this fund.

to be known as the "Neville-Rolfe Memorial Fund," is to be devoted to the upkeep and repair of the building of Christ Church, Naples, of which Mr. Neville-Rolfe was for may years churchwarden or chairman of committee, and in which he was especially interested.

We feel that there must be many not at present

we reet that there must be many not at present in Naples who would wish to contribute to this most practical form of keeping his memory alive, who were either personal friends of the late Consul-General or who received from him that invariable kindness and courtesy which he extended o all British and other visitors.

Donations to the fund will be thankfully re-ceived by the churchwardens or can be paid in to the National Bank of Scotland, Ltd., 37 Nicholas Lane, London, E. C., to Messrs. Ladenburg, Thal-mann & Co., bankers, P. O. box 25, New York, or by Messrs. Holme & Co., bankers, Naples, for the eredit of the Neville-Rolfe Memorial Fund HERBERT C. MURIEL, M. A., Chaptain.

J. WAREFIELD, Lieut.-Colonel. F. W. HOLMB. Churchwardens and Treasurers. VILLA SANTARELLA, Vomero, Naples, Janu

From the Lamar Democrat, You can wear any kind of clothes you plea

except a monocle in these hills now and still as a real man. You know there was a time when you would be branded a tenderfoot if you let it be known that you wore socks or underwe that we believe the race is playing out.

Advice to a Truth Teller. Washington had just said he couldn't tell a lic.
"In that case. George," cautiened his fathenever ongage in any of the food industrie rolls will find out who gets the profess.

Heading the advice, he chose a military earner.

THE GRAFTING LABOR LEADER.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: me to congratulate David Mackay on his outspoken views, though I cannot agree

with some of his conclusions. Though he does not give facts to prove or back up his statements, and critics migh say they are too general or sweeping, yet in the main they are, unfortunately, correct, as any intelligent citizen or well posted

man must admit. Trade unionism is on the brink of great and far reaching changes. The personnel of the labor organizations will not cut taus ce in the future. What the great mass of the people are interested in is: Will the trade unions continue the same old backneyed policy that they have been pursuing for the last twenty years? Are they going to tolerate such asinine windbags as Gompera & Co. much longer? How long? Mr. Mackay says the labor leaders lack

sincerity and are too numerous. As a mem-

ber of a large trade union I have many times called attention to the superfluors Some are offices in name, sinecures would be the most proper title. Most of the unions have a president, a vice-president, a corresponding secretary, a recording secretary, a financial secretary, a sergeant-at-arms, an auditing committee, a oard of trustees, and delegates to several committees and the ubiquitous walking delegate, otherwise known euphoniously function of the latter seems to be to dress well, wear rings on his fingers and "rocks" in his shirt front. If some one will discover his duties besides drawing his pay from the union and tyrannizing over the rank of the unfortunate workers in the struggles

from the union and tyrannizing over the rank and file or making scapegoats and victims of the unfortunate workers in the struggles of rival business men or corporations la S. Parks, the discoverer ought to be acclaimed as the wonder of the age.

Of course there are unions that combine several of their offices in one head, but the rule seems to be to make as many offices as possible, or the foolishness or good nature of the men will stand for Most of the officials are paid, some draw two salaries after the fashion of our politicians. Others draw pay from the unions and salaries from the city or the State of the nation. You find them in every place where easy money can be procured. They glide in and around the racetrack. They adorn commissions, on which they seem to be indispensable. They are constantly in receipt of vinvitations to "blowouts." It may be honoring another union or stracing the board of the Civic Federation or some well meaning but thoughtless ladies must have some labor grafter at dinner at least once a week. I believe a great many of the labor leaders are more at home in evening dress than they are in overalls.

The labor leader has done what many western millionaires failed to do, he has gone into or broken into society. Some day we shall read of James Holland, the labor leader and politician, leading the cotillon at Mrs. Newrich's or Mrs. Astorbilt's. If the labor leader can find time to speak at the docks during noon hour in behalf of a Mayoralty candidate besides attending to other arduous and taxing duties, why not grace a Fifth avenue ballroom with his majestic presence? Such questions as how did he do it, where did he get it, do not apply to him.

In order to qualify for political office and statesmanship it is no longer necessary to enter that ancient seat of learning Tammany Hall. The best school of political economy and citizenship is the Central Federated Union. The C. F. U. is somewhat crowded now, but it has some excellent tributary colleges.

Mr. Mackay speaks of "sincerity." The si

called other fastidious names. He is quickly got rid of.

The majority of the labor leaders or grafters if should estimate 80 per cent. I are double dyed frauds and scoundrels of the worst character. They are the very incarnation of crime. The term grafter is too mild. They cheat their own unions, they boss the men they ought to serve, they steal from employers and blame the organization. They rob the widows and orphase committed to their care, and they convertunion meetings into political caucuses.

Yes, the trade unions are not making the progress they should. They are far benind the German, British or French. I take my hat off to Mr. Mackay.

PATRICK KELLI.

NEW YORK, February 1.

WHAT IS HELL?

There is a Copious Literature, but the Mod-

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: 1 have a vivid recollection of Canon Farrar's ser-mon on "Hell: What It Is Not," which he preached in Westminster Abbey on No-vember 11, 1877.

The excitement caused by that sermon was intense, and several clergymen actually contemplated resigning their livings; place, and even the Protestant clergy began Milton could not be the creation of a God o mercy and of love who, as the prophet savs "knoweth our frame and remember

As I remarked in a former letter to THE Sun, the silence of Protestant pulpits of the final desent of man is very remarkable. because it is impossible to conceive of a subject of greater importance to the human "There is but a step between us and death"-and then what? troubled Dr. Johnson almost to his dying hour. Why does it not trouble us? I have given forty-five years to the careful study of the question. At one time it drove me very nearly into atheism, even as it drove

given forty-five years to the careful study of the question. At one time it drove me very nearly into atheism, even as it drove Mill.

The Apostle Paul is silent on the subject, and the doctrine of a never ending punishment is found only in three passages of the Gospels professing to give an account of what the Eaviour said on the subject: Mathew xxv., 46, Mark iii., 28, and Mark ix., 44. The parable of the rich man and Lazerus and two passages in the Apocalypse. I dismiss the last three as they are clearly figurative, but the statements in the Gospels demand explanation. In the first place is is difficult to explain the precise significance of the words; then there is considerable controvers as to the text. Afford retained them in his Greek Testament, but Tischendorf omits certain verses. The words of Christ are in the form of parables. He treated pophlar religious terms as only the symbols of a laise creed can be effectually treated. He rescued them for the service of the new and the true. He employed the images of heaven and hell to impress upon men's consciences the supreme bliss of righteousness and the awful misery of sin. The "lost soul" was the object of Christ's mission upon earth, but I find that destriction and not endless torment is the destiny of the "lost." Exclusion from life and life eternal, death, destruction, corruption, perishing, are the terms used in the explanation of Christ's words: "God so loved the world, that He gave His only be systen Son, that whosever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life." St. Paul indorses this gospel, when he writes: "The wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."

There is no "hell" of punishment is often assumed to be a truth of natural religion, but in all primitive religions the first guesses at immortality include no thought of punishment. Homer speaks of life and form in hades, but he says there is no mind there at all.

The primitive Hebrew conception was even less definite than the G

NEW YORK, February 1.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: A paragraph in to-day's Sun mentions some odd names of New York's streets. In driving through Liverpool. England, recently, I came across blocks of streets in the northwestern part of that city called after heroes and heroines of Shakespeare's plays and Dickens's novels: "Hamlet," "Ophelia," "Lacries." "Portla," "Viola," "Desdemona," "Macbeth," "King Lear," &c., from Shakespeare, and "Pickwick," "Sam Weiler," "Tom Quick," "Marin Chizalewit," "Micawher," "Pegrotty," "Saodgrass," "Chizalewit," "Micawher," "Pegrotty," "Saodgrass," "Chiddhard," &c., from Dickens, Baltricons, Fanuary 38, ingland, recently, I came across blocks of street